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SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to assure the House that when the prohibition work is transferred to the Police Department, the men employed in the Prohibition Department will not be thrown out of employment and that nobody should be discharged from service? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Every measure of economy, every rearrangement on grounds of policy and expediency involves this difficulty. Hon. Members should not imagine that their business is only to defend the retrenched people but the general expediency of the State should be the first concern of hon. Members."

SRI P. SELVARAJ :—" Sir, by this merger, does the Government effect economy or efficiency? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Only efficiency is the object but economy is always kept in mind."

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" In view of the fact that the success of Prohibition depends upon the quality of men who are engaged in this work, will the Government entrust the enforcement of this Act to specially trained people? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Sir, it is not propaganda that is involved in the matter. It is the detection and punishment of offenders and the like. Now, here no question of training is involved other than what is involved in ordinary criminal investigation and that is why, the Police are considered better."

SRI A. RAMASAMY TEVAR :—" May I know from the Hon. the Chief Minister, whether the Government will consider the desirability of revising the Prohibition Act so as to inflict capital punishment and thus mitigate illicit distillation and illicit drink? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Merely changing the sentences in the Penal Code will not improve our people. We should all set examples." (Laughter.)

Refugees from foreign pockets in India.

9.20 a.m. * 389 *Q.*—SRI K. MADHAVAN NAMBIAR: Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state whether any refugees from foreign pockets like Pondicherry and Mahe have taken shelter in this State; and if so, their number and the extent of State-aid given to them?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" The answer to the first part of the question is in the affirmative. Exact figures are not available, but it is estimated that about 800 men, 400 women and 200 children have come over from the French Settlements to this State.

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"This Government recognized the fact that these persons had to leave their homes and employment on account of their political views and therefore all possible assistance is given to such of these men as are found suitable for being put in work."

SRI D. KRISHNAMURTHY GOUNDER :—"இந்த அன்னிய பிரதேசங்களை, இந்திய யூனியனில் சேர்க்கத்தக்க முயற்சி எடுத்துக்கொள்ளுவார்களா ?"

MR. SPEAKER :—"This has to be addressed to the Government at Delhi and not to this Government."

SRI D. KRISHNAMURTHY GOUNDER :—"Sir, I want to know what this Government have recommended."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—"Sir, my opinion is as advanced as that of the hon. Member in this matter."

SRI P. KUNHIRAMA KIDAV :—"Sir, may I know whether this Government have any information regarding the properties of these refugees in Pondicherry and Mahe and what steps have they taken to safeguard those properties?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—"Sir, those who leave their places of residence and come away take the consequences whether such action is voluntary or involuntary. How can this Government take any care of the properties in the territories of another Government especially when it is not even connected with us like a neighbouring State but is an independent Government?"

SRI M. PALANIYANDI :—"இந்த அன்னிய திட்டுகள் இருப்பதால் மதுவிலக்குத் திட்டம் அமுலாக்கமுடிவதில்லை, மேலும் கள்ள வியாபாரத்தால் மாகாண வியாபாரம் மோசமடைகிறது. இதை அரசாங்கத்தார் கவனித்துத் தடுப்பதற்கு முன் வருவார்களா ?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—"Sir, it is true that many people—a very large number of people—in the French and other foreign possession in India are interested in exploiting the difference in taxation in trade and commerce, that is to say, engage themselves in smuggling activities. Unfortunately, I admit that smuggling and politics are very much mixed up together."

SRI K. T. RAJU :—"1947-ம் வருஷத்திலிருந்து இதுவரையில் 10,000 பேர்கள் தாயகத்தில் சேரவேண்டுமென்பதற்காக அன்னியத் திட்டுகளில் இருந்து வெளியேறியிருப்பதாகத் தெரிகிறது. அப்படி வெளியேறிய 10,000 அகதிகளுக்கும் நமது சென்னை சர்க்கார் பாதுகாப்பளித்து உதவி செய்வதற்கு பொறுப்பு எற்றுக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார்களா? இருந்தால் என்ன நடவடிக்கை எடுத்து இருக்கிறார்கள் ?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—"Sir, the hon. Member gave us figures that 10,000 people have come away from the French Settlements. My figures are slightly different, namely, it is 1,500."

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SRI K. MADHAVAN NAMBIAR :—" ഗവമ്മെണ്ടിന്റെ കണക്കുകൾ ഒട്ടും ശരിയല്ല കൂടുതൽ അഭയാർത്ഥികൾ ഉണ്ടെന്നാണറിവ്. വീണ്ടും കണക്കുകൾ ശേഖരിച്ചു അവക്കു വേണ്ട സഹായം ചെയ്യാൻ ദയവുണ്ടാകുമോ ?"

SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIYAR :—" Sir, the hon. Member says that the statistics given by the Government are not at all correct."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Sir, I cannot take it from the hon. Member that the statistics collected by our officers are wrong. Of course, statistics are generally right only up to a point. It may be both are right but we cannot say this as between 1,500 and 10,000."

SRI S. RAMALINGAM :—" பிரஞ்சு செட்டில்மெண்டு எல்லையில் இருக்கும் பாண்டிச்சேரி, காரைக்கால் பிரதேசங்களில் நம்முடைய மக்கள் அங்குள்ள போலீசாரால் தாக்கப்படுவதால் பலர் காயம் அடைந்ததாக பத்திரிகைகளில் செய்தி வந்தது. இதைத் தடுப்பதற்கு இந்த சர்க்கார் என்ன நடவடிக்கை எடுத்துக்கொண்டார்கள் ?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Sir, we are taking the greatest amount of interest in this matter but as it is an international and political matter all the things that we do cannot be set out to the general public in newspapers or in answers to questions in the House. It is a matter which we have to deal with very carefully. The Government of India is far more anxious to look after these people and to bring these difficulties to a termination than any Member of this House either on this side or on that side."

SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—" Sir, the Hon. the Chief Minister was saying that it is an international question and beyond the control of this Government to help these refugees whose properties were left in Mahe. May I know, whether the Hon. the Chief Minister will be pleased to state, if these refugees who have left their houses and movable property in Mahe are prepared to go there with the help of the democratic public and take the movable properties from their houses, that police aid will not be given in favour of this Foreign Settlement?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Sir, I am surprised at the naivete of the hon. Member. We cannot possibly send our policemen into French territory without taking the risk of both sets of people, police officers and men, being arrested and put in prison. We cannot do such a thing. We are trying to give employment to those who are fit for employment and we are trying to do all that we can for them. We cannot go and interfere in the internal police affairs of the other State."

Mobile medical units.

* 390 *Q.*—SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state whether the Government have received nay representation or report requesting that mobile